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August 28, 2002

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BY HAND DELIVERY

Marlene H. Dortch, Esquire
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: **Notification of *Ex Parte* Communication**
MM Docket Nos. 01-235 and 96-197

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to advise you, in accordance with Section 1.1206 of the FCC's rules, that George L. Mahoney, General Counsel and Secretary of Media General, and I met today with Alexis Johns, Media and Consumer Protection Legal Advisor to Commissioner Michael J. Copps.

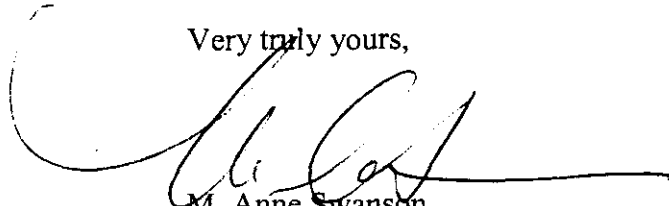
The discussions involved the FCC's intention, announced to the press on June 17, 2002, to conduct one large rule making that would address a number of the FCC's media ownership rules, including the newspaper/broadcast ownership rule. The discussion also involved various issues raised in Media General's Comments and Reply Comments in these dockets, including its experience in operating its co-owned commercial television stations, newspapers, and Internet sites in Tampa, Florida and other markets; Media General's concern over recent cutbacks in local newscasts by the television industry; the company's view that repeal of the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule will enhance the delivery of local news and information; the company's belief that the rule does not advance diversity of viewpoints; the factual information and empirical data in the record related to diversity and competition; and the fact that Section 202(h) of the 1996 Telecommunications Act and recent opinions of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit require prompt action in this proceeding.

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Marlene H. Dortch, Esquire
July 1, 2002
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As required by section 1.1206(b), two copies of this letter are being submitted for each of the above-referenced dockets.

Very truly yours,



M. Anne Swanson

cc (by hand delivery):
Alexis Johns, Esquire